NOTICE: WATCH FOR
King Trial Edition
COMING SOON!!!

COMMEMORATOR

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King on Trial, Not Police

Editor's Note: At press time the defense and prosecution portions of the federal trail of the four police officers charged with violating Rodney King's civil rights were completed and the jury awaiting judge Davis's instruction. Meanwhile all are acutely aware that the wealthy and predominantly white male power structure did not permit any substantive economic improvements or investments in any low-income communities anywhere in the U.S. So real possibilities of massive protests and possibly uncontrolled rioting dominate the press. Needless to say, no such fears would form if the massive lies and false promises of jobs, education and economic development made by the slimy petty-bourgeoise politicians had been kept. For the poor and oppressed and minority people, the solution lies not in riot or even protest but in organization. That is the legacy of Dr. Huey P. Newton, founder of the Black Panther Party.

During the trial of the four police officers charged with violating Rodney King's civil rights, defense attorneys for the four were allowed, without objection from the bench, to level a barrage of accusations at King's character. The defense attempts clearly were meant to paint Rodney King as a violent, drug using, ex-con and therefore deserving of the vicious attack and beating he endured the night of March 3, 1991. The defense pointed out several sub-

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Ray Mann

Lines for food, clothing, jobs, income and health care are becoming a common feature of survival in the American economy for employed and unemployed low-income people.

Too little, too late

Clinton's Promises Will Further Impoverish Poor & Minorities

President Clinton's promises to cut the federal deficit and reduce the national debt will further impoverish poor, unemployed — black, Native, Latino, white and Asian — Americans, and most working communities, where few own any sizeable portion of the federal debt and "reducing the federal deficit" is a empty phrase with no benefit to most people's day-to-day lives.

So far, budget cuts are the most specific things Clinton has offered, although he has promised the low income and minority population of the United States a federal enterprise zone program, a "universal" health insurance plan that will ration care to the poor and transfer profits from individual doctors to corporate interests, taking the money out of the community, and a two-year cut-off on welfare that addresses individuals as

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No Redress For Bay Area Protesters

Editor's Note: At press time the trial for the "L.A. FOUR" accused of beating truck driver Reginald Denny has been delayed for three months and is scheduled to start sometime in June. The judge's explanation was that it will "allow time for more thorough preparation by both the defense and the prosecution. It is probable that fears of massive protests or uncontrolled rioting which could equal or even exceed those of April, 1992 could occur and that separating the trials would be preferable.

Although media attention following the first Rodney King verdict at the end of April 1992 focused on Los Angeles, and specifically on acts of violence (particularly the beating of truck driver Reginald Denny shown repeatedly on TV), in fact protests against the verdict and the legal system that produced it erupted across the country, in Atlanta, the San Francisco Bay Area, Madison, New York City, and Toronto, Canada.

In addition to the more than 18,000 arrests in Los Angeles, the

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Guest Editorial

CLINTONOMICS

(Editor's Notes: This article is by a person of color in prison providing a factual analysis that gives the calumny to economic program. ***The Commemorator*** *urges readers to read and discuss this article.)*

"Clintonomics" is a more deceptive, deadlier form of trickle-down economics which has been emptying the pockets of those whose living costs always exceed income, as U.S. living standards continue to free-fall below third and fourth world misery levels; a supply side, "voodoo economics" version of LBJ's failed Great Society program, 30 years too late and at least as many billion dollars short.

The propaganda machine must sell the American people the false idea that giving billions in public money to the rich and subjecting scapegoated target groups ...is in the vital economic and national security interest of America.

This time it's packaged as user-friendly, social fascism, with a distinctly American, Southern drawl that compels handkerchief-headed house-niggers everywhere to beg on cue for "mo' money, " to fund sub-poverty-level wages, forced labor disguised as job training in neo-colonized ghettos, prisons and enterprise zones similar to South African apartheid homelands.

Sub-poverty-level wage, state-enforced, forced labor disguised under Clintonomics as community work experience, work supplementation and job training programs, operate service delivery and labor market areas, many contained in enterprise zones and having residency requirements, under the Job Training and Partnership Act (JTPA) 29 USCS § 1503(13), 1551 (e) and other provisions.

Such residency requirements are similar to those in South African apartheid homelands and Nazi labor laws under Hitler, which required German workers to live in the area of their employment and not move without permission of administrative agencies. They have historically been used to relegate the working class to the status of serfs, peons and involuntary servants bound to a geographic area, i.e., bound to the land.

Under this system of American "Economic Apartheid," *green, the color of money, not skin color, is the dividing line*, separating the financially comfortable from those buried, or about to be, in America's multi-racial underclass, as Michael Jackson sings "...it doesn't matter if you're black or white," in the background.

The joint-democratic-republican party line is: we can put America first again by giving billions in public money, resources, breaks and incentives to the profit sector; while also providing them with a state-enforced system of peonage, involuntary servitude and forced labor, disguised as job training, at sub-poverty level wages.

Regardless of whether the rallying cry in get tough with Jews and communists in Hitler's Germany, or Turks, Africans and foreigners in today's Germany; or state-enforced, forced labor, at sub-poverty-level wages, for unemployed, underemployed, poor, income or means-test-qualified applicants for, or recipients of: welfare, general assistance, SSI, and other government benefits, in Clinton's America; *the process and methodology of national socialism and clinical fascism are the same.*

The propaganda machine must sell the American people the false idea that giving billions in public money to the rich and subjecting scapegoated target groups to state-enforced forced labor at sub-poverty-level wages, is in the vital economic and national security interests of America.

The throw-aways, unrecognized and expendable victims of the war on the poor, who have been systematically and genocidally placed last and excluded by big business and big government from the idea of America embraced by the slogan "America first," means multi-national corporate "America first" means multi-national corporate America *only.*

This combination of public welfare for the rich and forced labor for more and more of the working class is the modern equivalent of Hitler's "National Socialism," consolidates

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Letters To The Editor

Dear Editor,

For a monthly paper that is doing such an excellent job I want to know, why haven't you printed an editorial pointing out that the national round of "riots" after the Rodney King beating decision, failed to resolve the same fundamental economic and political problems addressed by the BPP under Dr. Huey Newton's political analysis. Those "riots" didn't just happen — they were in response to the condition of oppression and exploitation placed upon the people by a powerful and entrenched minority, as described in the BPP 10 points program.

We look forward to the arrival of the Commemorator at our local grocery store each month to find out what's happening to our brothers and sisters around the country and the world. Your articles on how the government uses programs like "enterprise zones" and the North American Free Trade Agreement to impoverish working people of all colors and faiths really struck home here in Trenton — it used to be "Trenton Makes, The World Takes" a sign on the bridge; now Trenton is a destitute City known for the outstanding number of jobs it has lost and the size of its failing enterprise zone.

Local discussion groups used your piece on the rise of Islam and the geopolitics of oil and money as source material.

Your explanation of the role of the media in controlling the views and actions of poor and minority people was again to be right. Just this week the national radio, TV, and print media told the stories of the people of Russia through their elected representatives demanding a return to an economy that provided jobs, housing, education and health care instead of unemployment and discarding of anyone no longer "useful" for profits. The stories were written as propaganda to bolster support for Yeltsin, because the U.S. government fears the return of a communist government.

Another story in the news lauded the government's arrests in the Twin Towers bombing,ignoring the doubtful lawfulness of the "round-up" arrest of the purported ringleader in Egypt and rushing him to the U.S., avoiding due process and attempting to trade him for a blind muslim cleric whose sermon called for the overthrowal of the Egyptian government. Of course, there are no independent reporters in Russia and there are none here — both governments fear nothing more than the truth in the hands of the people with an organized, disciplined and determined leadership. That's what makes The Commemorator so exciting to receive!

Maxine Greely
Trenton, N.J.

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COMMEMORATOR

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"SERVING ALL OPPRESSED COMMUNITIES"
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(Clockwise) The family of Jose Barlcw Benavidez, who was murdered by an Oakland cop last summer; planning meeting for July 4 march and rally against police repression and unemployment, chaired by Mrs. MATTIE SHEPHERD (third from right), mother of TYRONE GUYTON. Tyrone Guyton was shot down at the age of 14 on November 1, 1973, by three White Emeryville cops; mass protest against unemployment.

It was clear to the BPP in the late 60's and 70's that the Police Department was incapable of policing an impoverished minority community without being oppressive.

Police Brutality and the BPP

It was nearly 26 years between the first Black Panther Party patrols to protect poor black and minority citizens from police brutality in Oakland and the Simi Valley verdict that no crime had been committed by Los Angeles police officers whose brutal beating of Rodney King had accidentally been captured on video tape. One of the startling facts brought out by the Rodney King beating is that through all the programs, psychological training courses, community relations programs, police review boards, etc., the problem of police brutality has gone largely unchanged. Those who perpetrated it 20 years ago and the population it was perpetrated against remain the same.

Huey P. Newton, founder and then minister of defense for the Party drew on the example of Robert Williams, President of the NAACP chapter in Monroe, North Carolina, who recruited members into an armed self-defense organization, and literature from the Deacons for Defense and Justice in Louisiana. However, Newton commented "I did not like the way he had called on the federal government for assistance."

At first, as Huey P. Newton reported, the patrols were a complete success. They took officers by surprise, never having encountered articulate black men, armed with both guns and law books, scrupulously standing at a safe distance to both observe what happened and provide on-the-spot reading of applicable law for the information of those stopped, of bystanders, and as a caution to the officers. Often police would leave in a hurry — other times an officer would react emotionally. Soon officers began systematically following, stopping, pursuing, and contriving opportunities to arrest Panthers, on patrol or not. Early charges included "carrying a concealed weapon" — a boy scout type penknife, and "displaying a weapon in a rude and threatening manner" — referring to a police officer (who had been using profanity toward Newton) as "a swine, a pig, a slimy snake — everything I could think of without using profanity" while holding an (at that time legal) shotgun.

In the absence of systemic change in the administration of justice, beatings such as Rodney King's continue to occur in every major American city three times a night, but the trial of four police officers for violating King's civil rights has been carefully orchestrated so as NOT to put institutional racism on trial.

"There should never have been an occasion in which Rodney King could have been beaten."

"Racial discrimination results from institutional decisions to stake out ghetto corners preferentially and stop blacks on Saturday nights" pointed out one Los Angeles resident. "White corners are never surveilled; white drivers are hardly ever stopped. There should never have been an occasion in which Rodney King could have been beaten."

The video taken of the Rodney King beating is the only thing that makes it stand out. There was no video of the young Detroit man, last year beaten to death by police officers while other officers stood around and watched, even the paramedics testified in this case that the officer was still beating Malice Green when he was handcuffed and loaded into the ambulance. Nor were there video tapes of the rampant police brutality that inspired BPP community patrols in the first place.

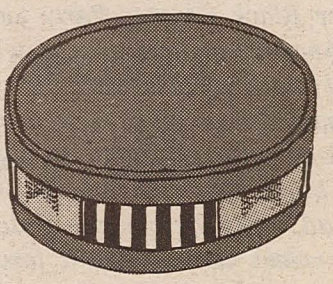
No addressment to the question of police brutality has come from above, from the more than 7000 "elected" black officials or the traditional "leadership" of the black community. In fact federal judge John J. Davies' initial ruling that to find the officers guilty the jury must find that they were motivated by King's race, and his turnabout ruling that racial motive did not have to be proven, both acted to prevent systemic racism from being put on trial.

The Black Panther Party began with emphasis on police brutality, point 7 of the original 10-point program, because it was a major issue in every black community. It was clear to the Party in the late '60s and 70s that the Police Dept. was incapable of policing an impoverished minority community without being oppressive.

The Party's call for armed self defense, declaring that every man, woman or child had a right to defend themselves against brutality no matter from whom it came, was organized strictly within the law, but nevertheless became a target for unfavorable publicity and an excuse for a violent police response that ultimately left 86 Panther leaders dead.

In 1967 the party called for Community Control of the Police force calling for 1) special ward and precinct committees to be set up that would conduct monthly meetings and investigate citizens' complaints of police abuse; 2) survival programs such as food buying clubs and the SAFE (Seniors Against A Fearful Environment — a program to protect Senior citizens against muggings, originally implemented in Oakland, California by BPP co-founder Bobby Seale in the early 70's). The program of Community Control of the Police called for a transfer of the power of supervising and administrating the Police department and all its affairs to the citizens of the city at large via community based structures under community declared provisions, that policemen would live in and be selected from the community in which they work, putting an end to the practice of hiring police from rural areas and assigning them to work in the urban areas, or hiring police from all white, upper income communities and putting them to work in low-income minority communities with which they share no common culture, social condition, knowledge, or sometimes language. ■

N'Zinga's



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Archive Photo

The above photo is of Theresa Murphy, age 7, who is a positive sickle cell case. She is standing in front of a magnified illustration of the red blood cells taken from a patient in a sickle cell crisis. The cells are sickled, stretching away from their normal donut shape.

Interview With Dr. Tolbert Small on the historic fight against sickle cell anemia

One of the few black professionals in the Eastbay who knows his ties and pledges his allegiance to the black and low-income neighborhoods and works there each work day is Dr. Tolbert Small, who heads the Harriet Tubman Clinic, located in East Oakland's low-income community. Dr. Small is also a former supporter of the Black Panther Party, who headed up the Black Panther Party Sickle Cell Anemia Research team as its National Chairman in the early 70's. He was part of the original effort to treat this deadly disease that primarily affects black people in America and abroad, long before the federal government claimed credit for the treatment. In the following interview, Dr. Small points out how Richard Nixon, then President of the United States, jumped on the bandwagon, responding to the political organizing that the BPP was leading.

This initial effort by the Black Panther Party to fight sickle cell anemia occurred in December of 1970 at Walla Walla Federal prison, led by the Seattle State Chapter of the Black Panther Party. There it was discovered by the Chapter's medical coordinator and cadres that there was a high percentage rate of black males who tested positive, carrying the sickle cell anemia trait. From that initial effort, the sickle cell anemia fight became a national campaign, led by the Black Panther Party and the black community with a small portion of the medical community actively supporting.

Q: Dr. Small, in the early 70's you were a part of the first effort to fight sickle cell anemia. Could you talk about that experience?

Dr. Small: They [the government] were not spending money on sickle cell anemia. There was a professor, Robert Scott, from Virginia and he happened to do an article published in the Journal of the American Medical Association, October 26 1970, where he documented the lack of spending on sickle cell anemia research. He said they spent less than a $100,000 on sickle cell anemia, but $7.9 millions for muscular dystrophy and $1.9 millions for cystic fibrosis. Yet sickle cell anemia had a greater morbidity and a greater mortality than any of the above diseases. So basically there was no funding being spent on sickle cell anemia.

So what happened when the Black Panther Party dramatized that — I think we had about nine free clinics — it put pressure on Richard Nixon. So Richard Nixon was so embarrassed that he came out before congress and said they were going to spend money on sickle cell anemia. So that is why they have funding today for sickle cell anemia. That is why Children's Hospital was able to get a grant to do research work. In fact, if you talk to any of the research doctors at Children's Hospital they will tell you that the reason that they were able to get funding to do research was because of the political work of the Black Panther Party. I heard the pediatric experts on sickle cell anemia say this publicly.

That's basically what we did. The original article that I wrote which was in the April 10, 1971 issue of the Black Panther newspaper is kind of interesting. Huey told me at the time that that particular issue was the largest selling issue when it came out with the sickle cell anemia drive.

So what we did, we actually set up a sickle cell board. Dr. Robert Scott, chairman of pediatrics at Howard University and Linus Pauling (Cal Tech scientist who holds Nobel prizes for both Chemistry and Peace), were members who sat on the board. William Davis, the actor Ossie Davis's brother was on our board of directors. He also had a Ph.D.

I wrote a letter and sent it to Ramparts magazine and it pointed out that Richard Nixon was now telling reporters that what we were doing was relevant and was proposing to spend money on sickle cell anemia, since there was no cure for sickle cell anemia. (But we knew what Richard Nixon was about). He wrote, "It is a shameful fact that the causes of sickle cell anemia have been largely neglected throughout this country's history." (Of course, this was oppor-

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Standing in front of the Great Wall, Dr. Tolbert Small, top-right, is part of a Black Panther Party delegation which visited the People's Republic of China in 1971.

New Treatment for Sickle Cell Anemia May Hold Promise for Sufferers of Related Disorder

A significant advance in the treatment of sickle cell anemia was reported in February of this year, in an article published in the *New England Journal of Medicine*. Researchers are saying the drug may hold promise in the treatment of a related inherited disorder, known as beta-thalassemia, in its intravenous form.

Drug researchers are in fact insisting that companies that manufacture the drug produce it in both oral and intravenous form, a motion that has resulted in a snag in negotiations to sell the patent for the drug.

Dr. Susan Perrine of Children's Hospital Oakland Research Institute was temporarily barred from her job for refusing to sign a paper that would have cleared the way for the sale of the patent to the new drug to a German drug producer because it didn't hold the manufacturer to this dual-form development of the drug.

Dr. Perrine asked that before she sign, the manufacturer commit to producing the drug in both oral and intravenous form, as researchers have said. Dr. Perrine believes that used in its intravenous form the drug is more effective for extreme forms of sickle cell anemia.

"I don't want to respond to why some companies do not want to manufacture the intravenous form of the medicine to fight sickle cell anemia," she told the COMMEMORATOR soon after returning to work. "At this point I am hoping that everything goes well. It's too early to respond to why some companies do not want to manufacture it."

It was over twenty years ago that the Seattle Washington Black Panther Party State Chapter's Busing to Prison Program, which transported families and friends of inmates of Walla Walla federal prison discovered through its black inmates medical testing program that a high percentage of African Americans inmates carried the trait of sickle cell." Sickle cell anemia afflicts one in every 250 Blacks born in the Bay Area and some 50,000 Blacks nationwide.

This discovery and subsequent action created the impetus for the Black Panther Party mobilization of black communities throughout America to fight sickle cell anemia, testing and educating tens of thousands of people to the nature of sickle cell anemia, forcing the federal government to institute research and testing for the disease," said Melvin Dickson, editor of the Commemorator and former Black Panther organizer, from the Washington State Chapter who was a part of the initial campaign to fight sickle cell anemia. "In late 1970, the Washington State Chapter of the Black Panther Party led a delegation of medical cadres with a certified, volunteer-physician to Walla Walla federal prison through the Party's Free Busing to Prison program and, while checking the black inmates for health problems (because of the institutionalized racism and neglect on the part of the federal government) discovered that there was a high rate of the sickle cell trait among black inmates," said Dickson.

Dr. Perrine said recently to the Commemorator, "we need the intravenous form for the severe patient. There are degrees of the severities of sickle cell anemia. The intravenous form is the most effective form for treating the patient."

When asked to comment on the production, cost and why the manufacturer doesn't want to produce the intravenous form of the drug, she said that "it's going to take a while. The FDA is pretty strict. They have quality control, it has to be tried on many levels, and it's costly. If everything goes well the drug should be on the market in three to five years."

In fact, many prescription drugs sell in the United States for three to ten times their price in other countries, including those in western Europe, which manufacturers justify on the ground of paying off research costs and financing future research. However, many studies of drug company income and expenses point to most of the money being spent not on research but on expensive advertising and marketing campaigns, including promotional lunches with doctors, hospital staffs, glossy ads and brochures, etc.

The related disorder affects only about 10,000 people in the U.S., primarily of Mediterranean or Caribbean descent, with millions of cases worldwide. The disease causes red blood cells to cramp into a crescent shape and clog small blood vessels, causing severe bouts of pain and a shortened life span. ■

How the Black Panther Party Became a National Organization

A Vignette: Coming Soon

The events that shaped the movement

The Commemorator announces a chronology of events beginning with Huey P. Newton, Bobby G. Seale, and Bobby Hutton. Background contributions that shaped the BPP movement in the country will soon appear on these pages, written by those who remain, who saw it happen, felt it happen, and in some cases, HELPED make it happen. This is the first installment in that series.

The pre-Panther formulations had insisted that those who enrolled in the original cause keep certain sectors of the population in mind when the laws of dialectics behind the rules explained the truth of what was happening, for a new leadership was beginning to stir where a new need was beginning to be felt. It was in those early days that the BPP sought ways for actions bordering on sacrifice to become the point of address of those exposed enough in body and mind to resolutely hold up answers to questions the living had learned from the dead you didn't mention.

Supporters of Black Panther Party leader Huey P. Newton march in 1969 May Day rally in front of the S.F. Federal Building as part of a nationwide campaign to publicize the repression against the BPP.

Fellow Commemorator writers through the practical affairs took on the task of re-shaping the thinking of a race nominally encased in a class doomed for destruction unless one could stop the terrible need to buy in or sell out as the only precedented means of survival.

Huey P. Newton, Bobby Seale, Elaine Brown, David Hilliard, Eldridge and Kathleen Cleaver; all of them were slated for lengthy individual programs designed to see them integrated into the white man's prison system. Huey had surprisingly survived. Black revolutionary writers and political activists, motivated by the lives and deaths of beacons of leadership such as Toussaint L'-Ouverture, Franz Fanon, and Malcolm X, who were murdered by the dominant colonial or imperialist occupying power without being given a chance to furnish a polemic in their favor, generally suffered the same fate early in the revolutionary efforts, leaving only their writings and an aura of romance as guides for the future.

Surprisingly, that "situation" began to reverse itself practically when, in late 1968, a black football star, one of the University of Minnesota's Golden Gophers and a Big 10 star became a prominent voice on a students' committee at that school through the aid of a handful of self-organizing Vista attendees who had just spent four years in cultural confrontation within the State itself on behalf of the economically poorer elements of intellectualism. Portions of Minnesota were already suffering under a 10-year reign of depression caused by the iron ore mine closing in the massive Masabi Range as Japanese metal replaced already decreasing demand from what was popularly known as the "rust belt." The closing of the necessary railroad spurs and subsidiary industries and support services turned the beginning portions of post WWII economic success back into "jack pine savages" — the poor white unrecognized workers who were being torn out of their jobs. Minnesota politicians had begun issuing scholarships and other entrance

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In Memoriam

Chris Hani

Chris Hani, the most militant popular black leader in South Africa, Chief of Staff of the African National Congress military wing, Umkhonto We Sizwe, ANC National Executive Committee member since 1974, and General Secretary of the South African Communist Party since December 1991, was assassinated outside his home in Dawn Park near Johannesburg 10 April 1993, three years after the ANC agreed to suspend its armed struggle against the apartheid regime.

Police and news media reports have focused on a Polish immigrant arrested for the murder after a neighbor recorded his license number on a car fleeing the scene. A gun in his possession, which matched the bullets that killed Hani, had been "stolen" from South African Air Force headquarters in 1990. The officer who admitted to the theft, a members of the Nazi group, Afrikaner Weerftandsbeweging (AWB) or the Afrikaner Resistance Movement, was later released in a political amnesty. Police have not commented on how the suspect, reportedly acting alone, knew to arrive on the day Hani had reportedly given his bodyguards the day off. "This is the beginning of a pattern we've seen decimate movements in America" said one African American labor organizer. "After killing a president in 1963, it was relatively easy to murder Malcolm X, Ralph Featherstone, Martin Luther King, Jr., as well a s Robert Kennedy and Walter Reuther, not to mention the wholesale slaughter of the Black Panther leadership. Chris Hani's death is the first in an effort to wipe out the generation of black leadership that could led the country to a new government. No-one has ever proven regular who conspired to kill any of these leaders, but they obviously weren't isolated events or coincidences."

It is well-known that while the talks for a "new" government go on, the current South African government is "privatizing" once government-owned property, functions and enterprises. This process of privatizing simply means that the Afrikaner government is turning over its power to private interest, private corporations to run for their own profit before the ANC assumes power. What a new, representative, majority government in South Africa can expect to find when and if a transition of power finally takes place, is a propertyless, poor government, totally dependent on the private individuals and corporations who own the resources it needs to operate.

It is well known and has been stated many times by ANC leader Nelson Mandela that the South African system of government harbors and indeed nurtures elements within it that would not like to see the negotiations for democracy in South Africa continue and would do anything to stop the talks and negotiations toward democracy. The brutal murder of Comrade Hani is widely believed to be the latest in their attempts to derail the talks. Many expect the "young lions," angry and vengeful, to rise up and avenge Hani's death. This new wave will be met with — and/or be preempted by — organized, official violence, with full open government participation, in the name of "quelling the violence." This tactic has already shown some success with the government funding of Inkatha to foment and then coin in the press the phrase "black on black" violence, to discredit the leaders of the majority of South Africans, although no major news media has used terms like "white on white" violence in reporting on the fratricidal wars in Yugoslavia.

Poor and oppressed working people of the world has seen the growing liberation struggle in South Africa and throughout the African continent as a beacon of hope and destiny. Chris Hani was one of our important helmsmen and an internationalist of the first order. He will be missed deeply by his comrades-in-arms around the world, and by the millions who never even heard his name. The Commemorator salutes General Chris Hani.

Hani joined the ANC Youth League at age 15 in 1957, and the SACP in 1961. He joined the fledgling Umkhonto We Sizwe (MK) in 1962, and fought with liberation forces in Zimbabwe starting in 1967, before returning to underground work in South Africa in 1974. Indeed, his entire life was dedicated to his people and his cause. He knew every activist in MK and in his party by name. In the months before he was murdered, the press in South Africa engaged in a campaign to discredit Chris Hani, whose popularity and steeled, articulate leadership gave the lie to government labels of ANC "terrorists." Hani is survived by his wife, Limpho and 3 daughters. ■

Comments on the life of Chris Hani

By fellow countrymen living in political exile in the United States.

Hani the most militant leader in the struggle of South Africa was killed on the 10th April in front of his garage of his home.

Hani served as Umkhonto We Sizwe, African National Congress (ANC) military wing and in 1991 was elected as General Secretary of the South African Communist Party, however, he remained an ANC governing board member and played a very important role in negotiations with the minority South African regime. He was a bridge for emancipation and peace. He has led a disciplined army for the positive and progressive goals of world's working and poor people.

Hani survived several attempt on his life before. They have been trying to kill him for years. He was a soldier in more ways than one; he was approachable and always down to earth with people. He did not let his position make him inaccessible to rank and file members and people at a grassroots level. He was a man of the people.

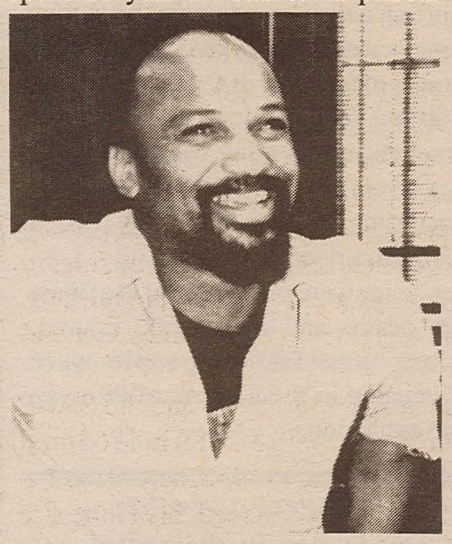
When he said, "We have to stop those who continue to be tempted to deploy strategic violence for political ends." Many white South Africans thought that statement was a declaration of war. Also to some black puppets who are a part of the violence and killing machine this statement had the same meaning. But to everyone who was genuinely interested in post Apartheid democratic South Africa this statement made sense.

What made them (the government and right wing forces) nervous was that he was fifty years-old, he was a bridge between the youth and the older people. A lot of the young people are very cynical about the whole process of negotiation. This has led to some disillusionment. Despite the growing mood of cynicism, he gave the movement credibility.

Here a government that are creating all this havoc, while the ANC is trying to go forth with a peaceful resolution. This white South African of Polish-born decent is a ploy. It doesn't matter what race the killer is, the responsibility lies with the de Klerk government. This is to create confusion and take the blame off the government. This is just a continuation of their systematic deployment of violence as central component of their political strategy. ■

Free Geronimo ji Jaga (Pratt) Political Prisoner U.S.

Former Black Panther leader, Geronimo ji Jaga (Pratt) has now spent 21 year in California prisons



and is one of the world's longest-held political prisoners, according to the International Campaign to Free Geronimo.

The government's own documents indicate that Geronimo is innocent of the crime for which he was convicted: the senseless murder of a white school teacher on a Santa Monica tennis court in 1968. At the time of this killing, Geronimo was attending a week-long Black Panther Central Committee meeting 400 miles away in Oakland, California. While the FBI had Geronimo and the Panther leadership under constant surveillance, the government claims to have mysteriously "lost" their records for this period.

Police agent Julio Butler was the main witness against Geronimo. It was his testimony that convicted Pratt. In 1968 Butler infiltrated the Southern Chapter of the Black Panther Party, in which Geronimo was a principal leader and provided information to the FBI. The truth about Butler as well as the suppression of statements indicating that others had done the killing, the planting of police spies in the defense camp, and many other abuses of justice were discovered only years later when Geronimo won access to FBI files.

In the Spring of 1991, armed with compelling new evidence of Geronimo's innocence, which included sworn affidavits by former Panther leaders Bobby Seale, David Hilliard, Kathleen Cleaver, and Emory Douglas that they were with Geronimo in Oakland at the time of the Santa Monica crime, attorneys filed a motion for a new trial. Within 24 hours of the delivery of hundreds of pages and evidence, the Los Angeles courts issued a one sentence ruling turning down the case.

Kept in prison solely because of his political history, Geronimo had served more time than murderers and criminals whose guilt was never in question, but whose ideology was more in keeping with the government's. When Dan White shot San Francisco Mayor George Moscone and gay County Supervisor Harvey Milk to death, he served less than five years in prison. KKK and Aryan Nations leaders Richard Butler and Robert Miles, charged in connection with bank robberies and racist murders, were freed by an all-white jury in 1988. In 1992, Los Angeles exploded when four white police were acquitted of the savage video-taped beating of Rodney King.

Geronimo refuses to apologize for a murder he did not commit. And he will not ever renounce his political beliefs. As it was for Nelson Mandela, Geronimo is in prison for his principles.

For more information about the efforts to free Geronimo contact the following:

International Campaign to Free Geronimo ji Jaga (Pratt)
P.O. Box 3585
Oakland, California 94609
(510) 268-0979

Los Angeles Chapter International Campaign to Free
Geronimo ji Jaga
P.O. Box 781-328
Los Angeles, CA 90016
(213) 758-6888

Write Geronimo at this address:
Geronimo ji Jaga (Pratt)
No. B40319
P.O. Box 1902B 1A208L
Tehachapi, California 93581

Leonard Peltier Granted Hearing for New Trial

By Reno Thunder

Leonard Peltier, a leader of the American Indian Movement (AIM), was granted a hearing in November on his writ of habeas corpus asking for a new trial. The judges, a panel of the Federal Court of Appeals in St. Paul, have not yet issued a decision on granting a new trial for the shooting deaths of two FBI agents on the Pine Ridge Reservation in 1975. The announcement that the court would hear Peltier's request was made in October by leaders of the American Indian Movement (AIM), the Leonard Peltier Legal Defense Committee, and the League of Indigenous Sovereign Nations. That date was the International Solidarity Day with the Indigenous Peoples of the Americas (or Columbus Day in the United States).

Peltier has become the symbol of political repression by the government through the federal COINTELPRO operation against AIM. Many consider him this country's foremost political prisoner.

Since the 1960s, AIM has been known as the leading national-international organization seeking to realize the hopes and aspirations of indigenous peoples of North America. Growing from the Twin Cities Indian Civil Rights Association, it gained national prominence and recognition through both the Trail of Broken Treaties, the 1972 caravan of nearly 1000 American Indians to Washington, D.C. to present 20 demands on the US government, and, when it was clear that the demands had been rebuffed, the 72-day confrontation between the federal government and AIM and its Native American and other adherents at Wounded Knee and nationwide, which riveted world attention.

Leonard Peltier was convicted and sentenced for the 1975 murder of two FBI special agents in a gun battle on the Pine Ridge Reservation near Wounded Knee, S.D. The shoot-out was part of the aftermath of Wounded Knee, when federal and federally assisted repression against AIM and conservative American Indians in general. Peltier has served 17 years of two consecutive life terms at the federal penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kan. In stark contrast, an Indian, Joe Stunts, was killed in the same fire fight but his death has never been investigated.

If a new trial is granted, evidence presented in Peltier's defense will include recently obtained freedom-of-information material which clearly shows how the FBI, under its secret COINTELPRO operation, targeted both AIM and its leadership for "neutralization." It is this evidence,

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Health Care For the Poor Shrinks

Clinton administration approval of the state of Oregon's controversial plan to ration health care to low income working and unemployed families has inspired new doubts among workers currently lacking health coverage about the intent of the commission chaired by Hillary Clinton that is reportedly drawing up plans for national health insurance. Monday, March 8 in a 60 minute interview with the Associated Press, Clinton said she was helping to draft health care legislation that would create a guaranteed "core of benefits" for all Americans.

Michaele Ramirez, Operations Manager for the Bay Area chapter of Coalition of Concerned Medical Professionals (CCMP) warned that, "This plan sounds a lot like the heath care rationing program in Oregon. We adamantly oppose it as legislated murder of the poor, and so have many other organizations, including the Children's Defense Fund (an organization Hillary Clinton once served on the board of)."

"We don't call it Health Care Rationing, we call it Death Squad Medicine, the state legislators are deciding who will live and who will die..."

The Oregon plan, like the health reform plan outlined by Hillary Clinton, promised to guarantee a core of benefits to all citizens of Oregon. What the positive publicity about the Oregon Plan doesn't say is that all diseases, ailments, etc. that don't fall within this "core" of benefits would specifically not be treated. For example, in Oregon anyone with a ruptured disk either has private insurance, money to pay for the necessary operation themselves, or just suffers with it. The routinely treatable condition can be totally disabling, even leaving a person bedridden.

A spokesmen for ad hoc CCMP in Oregon, Crichton Raaberg said that "people have already died" in her state from treatable illnesses because their specific disease was not listed in this "core of benefits". " They were denied life—saving treatment, murdered by omission." Some people have fled the state of Oregon seeking health care for uncovered illnesses."

In Oregon, Raaberg said, "We don't call it "health care rationing," we call it Death Squad Medicine, because the state legislators, by drawing up this 'core of benefits' as the Clinton Administration seems to be doing, are literally deciding who will live and who will die based on their income."

Even the Bush administration rejected this "core of benefits" idea in Oregon because, according to Heath and Human Services director Louis Sullivan, it "unfairly discriminates against the disabled." Professor of BioEthics at the University of Minnesota, Dr. Arthur Caplan, when asked about the Oregon Health Care Rationing approach, said it was not true rationing at all, because it only proposes rationing for the poor, not for everyone.

Vice President Albert Gore, Jr., was among the harshest critics of Oregon's Health Care Rationing scheme during congressional hearings in 1991, but has not commented on the subject since joining Clinton's ticket in last year's election. ■

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Professional Terrorism Comes to the U.S.?

Special from Worldwide Press Services

(Editor's Note: In a news conference at 1 Police Plaza, New York City 28 February involving Governor Mario Cuomo, New Jersey Governor James Florio, New York City Deputy Mayor Norman Steisal, New York City Police Commissioner Raymond W. Kelly, Assistant Director of the FBI, New York City Bureau Chief and head of the Joint Terrorist Task Force James Fox and New York Port Authority spokesperson Stanley Brezenoff, city authorities still stuck doggedly to the line that the cause of the World Trade Center explosion on 26 February was unknown. City, state and federal police agency officials all stated that no clear pre-incident threat was phoned in and that even bomb squad investigators would not be permitted to enter the area until it was determined to be safe.

By Tuesday, 2 March, however, federal authorities took the position that a terrorist explosion had occurred, involving a large amount of commonly available chemicals— probably nitrate based fertilizer and fuel oil. Investigators are focused on finding enough evidence to identify a known terrorist group's bomb "signature," and link it with witness description and security video tape recordings to known "terrorist."

Meanwhile, "Desert Storm" -type precautions are being taken, including surrounding of New York's City Hall with police vehicles designed to prevent unauthorized vehicle entry. This is reminiscent of the surrounding of the White House with cement trucks following the terrorist bombing of the U.S. Marine barracks in Beirut in which a pick-up truck loaded with explosives was driven through security gates into the building itself.

Governor Mario Cuomo closed the conference by describing the bombing as "a new chapter in American terrorism.")

Federal authorities believe professional terrorists of the type organized to a size and scope only found in nations or movements with underground armies, struck New York City's World Trade Center in a high noon blast 26 February, which they stated was created by a huge explosive device of over 200 lbs. of the sophisticated explosive C-4 or "plastique."

The blast occurred in a sub-basement parking arena frequented by five enforcement bureaus and others, hurling debris and damage 44 stories high, creating a 10,000 square foot crater measuring 100 feet wide and 200 feet deep, while it blasted its way through several other basement parking levels of the World Trade Center, according to New York City Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly. Losses so far were officially set at at least ten deaths and over 1,500 injured. More than 50,000 people were evacuated in the 12 hours following the explosion.

Refugees and other employees, in their panic, found locked doors, contradictory directions and lack of communications between offices and floors.

Many of those injured were trapped above the first 13 floors of tower #2, whose stairways became open-flue chimneys for thick soot-producing ignited plastic smoke, stopping evacuation above the 44th floor. Refugees and other employees, in their panic, found locked doors, contradictory directions and lack of communications between offices and floors. This "gridlock" slowed the evacuation process to the point that many victims were forced to undergo a 13.5 hour delay in exiting from the 110 story tower complex which they finally completed by 1:15 the following morning.

Chemical Smoke, Sealed Windows and High-Speed Elevators

Fire and safety officials have long feared fire or explosion in these giant towers with permanently sealed windows, no exits except massive high-speed elevators, which were immediately rendered inoperable by the explosion and filled with smoke. Except for a handful of exclusive, supposedly safe stairwells and elevators, these also became immediately darkened by thick billowing acrid fumes leaving deposits, according to federal investigators and national news sources, of chemical elements of the bomb itself. Many workers

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Terrorism

Continued from previous page

were forced to remain in sections rapidly filling with smoke, able to watch police and fire activity hundreds of feet below, but without any communication to notify rescuers of their whereabouts. Others formed long human chains, holding hands to assist one another in escape by walking from as high as the 105th floor. Rescue efforts from the heliopad on the roof were limited by snowstorm. Eight major TV and radio stations' antennae on the roof were shut down by damage.

The tower, built in 1968 as the world's tallest until surpassed by the Sears Tower of Chicago, houses over 50,000 workers. The alleged bombing occurred in section B2, which houses several federal agencies including the Secret Service and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, among others. It was reported that the President's car was severely damaged.

Agencies Seeking Cause and Source of Explosion

It was not until 1:15 the following morning, 13 1/2 hours after the explosion, that authorities shifted into full investigation of the cause and source of the explosion.

One early announcement, which authorities refused to verify, claimed that the Croatian Liberation Army, a right-wing organization, had called in 15 minutes prior to the explosion claiming Serbian responsibility. New York City police reported 19 other calls followed the blast claiming responsibility.

Investigations are underway by numerous agencies, including the Joint Terrorist Task Force II, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, the FBI and the New York City police and fire departments.

Federal law bureaucracies and politicians have long clamoured against possible intrusion by foreign nations and organizations and have long used the media to stir campaigns against nations in disfavor politically, such as Libya, Iraq and the freedom fighting South American nations.

IIRA Comments on Use of Terrorism as Tactic

According to International Investigations Research and Analysis (IIRA), a Swiss-based firm in scientific investigation with a three-decade history of critical review of matters such as these, the voice of terrorism begins to make itself heard when other methods of attracting attention to either an issue within its agenda, or an awareness that resistance to admitting an existence of such deep disfavour toward policy and practice continues to go unnoticed through what the would-be terrorists consider all legal methods available.

The Historical Use of Terrorism in Nations

The practice — carried out consistent with its resources and not inconsistent with its goals — was resorted to with some success during the years of high-profile colonialism in certain groupings who began at terrorist level, and moved themselves out into existing political venue by receiving cooperation within the nation engaged in terrorist demonstration. Those in charge of the colonizing effort finally found it less expensive to move their method of exploitation to another place or nation. It was this that found the French at Dien Bien Phu, and later in Algeria where the Ben Bella effort reached new heights in the clandestine fight, and was also used in arenas where popular means of communication held an issue or a group in such disfavour that their efforts to educate or inform a local voice through the press or parliamentary structure or other legal means seems to leave a grouping no choice but surrender. They would then adapt terrorist means using even the action of the defender to gain sympathy. This was used in Ireland and Nicaragua as well.

Those who begin the acts, even under such pragmatic reasons, find themselves working under the danger of a political action which will never find sympathy among the majority on a political scene, except through a more violent reaction than the one they have given in to or the one that is physically designed to wipe them out or to provide a successful counter-terror, but leaves them without followers because, from the position of a minority, they cared to open the door on violence.

'Coin of Unusual Choice'

If this be true, it seems someone or something has gone through an amazingly involved, expensive, ruthless, and at the same time and in its own way, *confining* manner to make the situation in our nation move into a position where something the outsider decided to say spent coin of unusual choice in order to say it. Either investigation or time will tell. Until then, despite the attitude, policies and schemata from the leaders will have to hold back at least a moment to see what possibly could be said. ■

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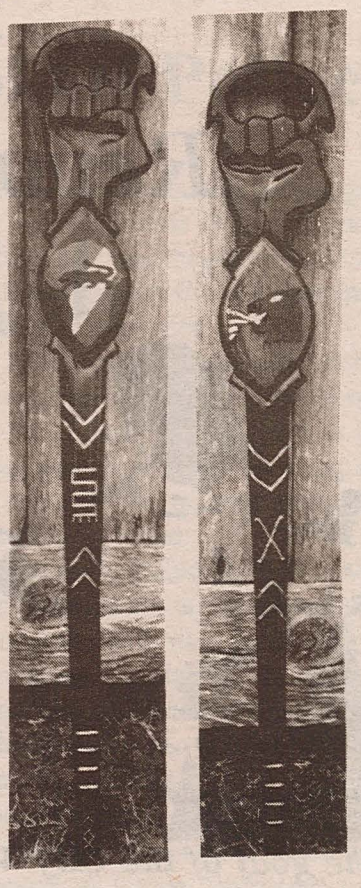

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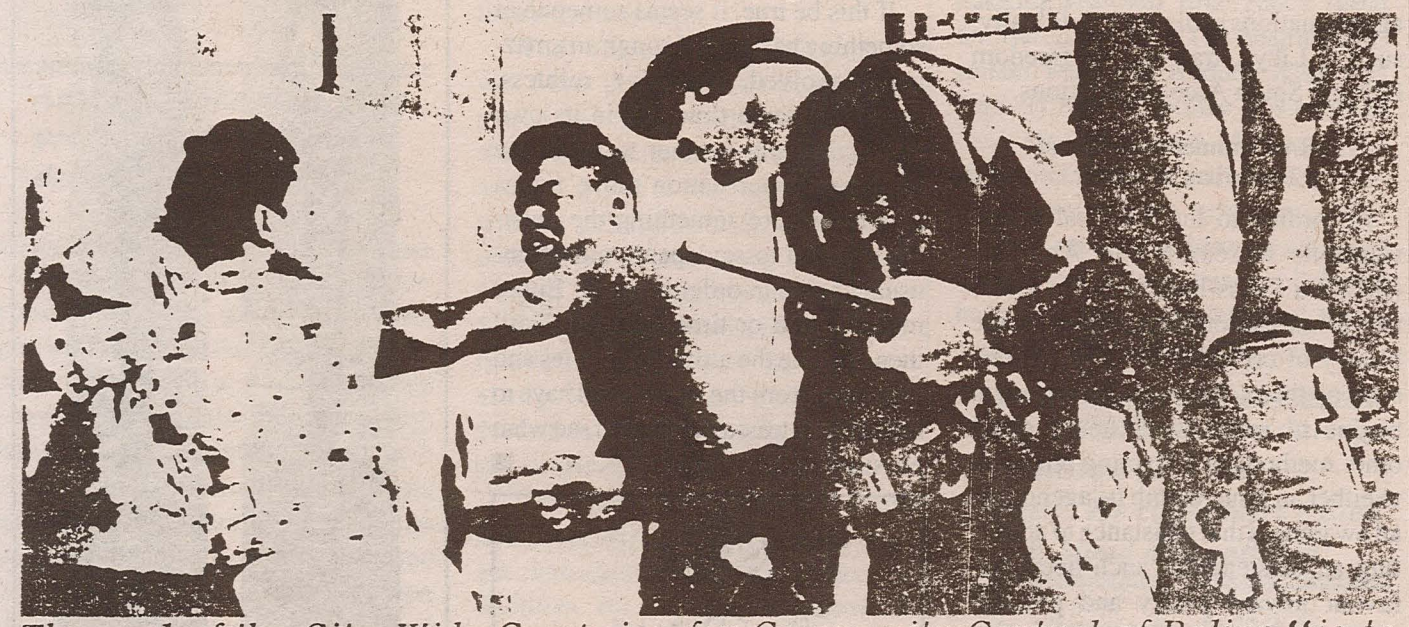
ARCHIVES

Excerpts from *Revolutionary Suicide*



The goal of the City-Wide Campaign for Community Control of Police "is to transform the power of a massive police apparatus out of the hands of criminals into the hands of the community, where it can be transformed into a service relevant to the community".

By Dr. Huey P. Newton

"In this excerpt from the chapter "Strategy" from Revolutionary Suicide, Black Panther Party leader and chief theoretician Huey P. Newton outlines the strategy of the successful "Free Huey" movement which spread across the Black communities of this country in the late 1960s. Newton was charged with first degree murder in the 28 October 1967 shooting of Oakland Police Officer John Frey, and facing a possible death penalty eagerly sought by prosecutor Lowell Jensen (now a federal judge after a stint at the U.S. Dept. of Justice under Attorney General Edwin Meese III). After three trials, surrounded by massive community organization on behalf of Newton and the Black Panther Party, the first resulting in a conviction on the lesser charge of manslaughter, the others in hung juries, all charges were dropped. Newton spent nearly three years in prison until the conviction was reversed.

To us, the key point in the trial was police brutality, but we hoped to do more than articulate that. We also wanted to show that the other kinds of violence poor people suffer—unemployment, poor housing, inferior education, lack of public facilities, the inequity of the draft-were part of the same fabric. If we could organize people against police brutality, as we had begun to do, we might move them toward eliminating related forms of oppression.

The system, in fact, destroys us through neglect much more often than by police revolver.

The system, in fact, destroys us through neglect much more often than by police revolver. The gun is only the coup de grace, the enforcer. To wipe out the conditions leading up to the coup de grace—that was our goal. The gun and murder it represented would then fade away. Thus, for the Black Panther Party, the goal of the trial was not primarily to save my life, but to organize the people and advance their struggle.

Our goal was not to save my life, because I had accepted what I thought was a certain fate: they would kill me. Everything we did in the next eleven months was predicated on my death. My life had to come to an end some time, but the people go on; in them lies the possibility for immortality.

The dialectic teaches that all men long for immortality, and this longing is one of the contradictions between man and nature. Man tries to resolve the certainty of death through reversal, by bringing it under control, which is a form of the will to power. But since each man eventually gives up his life, death can be controlled through the ongoing life of the people. ■

BPP history for the month of April

April 10, 1971 — BPP initiates countrywide campaign to research and eradicate Sickle Cell Anemia, a deadly hereditary blood disease, primarily affecting black people.

April 6, 1968 — Li'l Bobby Hutton, 17, the first member of the BPP and its national treasurer, is murdered in cold blood by Oakland police following a police-instigated shootout.

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Chicagoans Unite For Community Control Of Police

Editor's Note: Community control of police has been a frequent demand of oppressed communities over the past thirty years, and was a part of the original ten-point program of the Black Panther Party. It has been twenty years since the following program for community control was put together by Chicago Black Panther organizer Bobby Rush (who in November 1992 became the first former Panther elected to the United States Congress, from a mostly black district in Chicago). In the years since, "community control" has been advanced in many communities without producing any appreciable change in the behavior of police forces. In part this is because advisory and review boards are often set up with little or no power, serving to channel legitimate anger into public expression that lets off steam without making any real change. In part it is because "money talks," and police are charged with enforcing laws in low income communities that could not possibly be enforced without considerable brutality, as Huey P. Newton points out in another Archives presentation in this issue.

—Draft Ordinance To Highlight June 1st and 2nd Conference

Bobby Rush, coordinator of Illinois Chapter of the Black Panther Party and moderator of the upcoming Community Control of Police Conference, to be held on June 1st and 2nd in Chicago recently outlined a proposed ordinance for the establishment of community control of Chicago's police and explained the scheduled conference in terms of short and long range goals.In a telephone conversation just this past week with THE BLACK PANTHER PARTY, Bobby detailed the control of police ordinance proposal, showing exactly how it would function. Minor points remain to be worked out for positive structure for ending police abuse of Chicago's citizenry. "Of course," Bob Rush stated, "implementation of the ordinance is a long range goal of the scheduled conference, to be reached around 1975." He stressed that immediately after the conference a short range goal of campaigning for voter registration will begin. "We will have Community Control of Police petitions which 10% of all Chicagoans who voted in the last election (about 100,000) must sign in order for the ordinance to be placed on the ballot." Bob Rush further stated that about 600,000 people eligible to vote in Chicago are currently unregistered. "We have filed suit to force the Board of Election Commissioners to deputize members of the City-wide Campaign for Community Control of Police (as the movement is called) so that we can begin to register people to vote," he said. "The 600,000 unregistered people are mostly Black and poor." "Another short range goal is to set up special ward and precinct structures and committees," he said. "Precinct Committees would conduct monthly meetings and investigate citizens' complaints of police abuse. Survival programs, such as food buying clubs and SAFE programs (Seniors Against a Fearful Environment - a program to protect senior citizens against mugging, originally implemented in Oakland, California by Bobby Seale) would be established on precinct level." The far-reaching and progressive control of police ordinance proposed begins with: The powers of the Mayor, Superintendent of Police, Police Board and City Council...are hereby superseded in the following respects. This ordinance shall transfer the power of supervising and administrating the Chicago Police department and all its affairs to the citizens of Chicago at large via the following structures and provisions...A. There is hereby created in each of the 21 police districts in Chicago a District Citizen's Police Board. Said Board shall have the powers, duties, composition, and shall be chosen as set forth below:

Each District Board shall have nine members. These members shall reflect the general composition of the population of their respective district.

No member of any District Board shall be an employee of the Chicago Police Department nor hold any other public office. The members of each District Board shall be elected by the residents of each police district commencing September, 1975...

Candidates for members of the Police Board shall be at least eighteen (18) years of age by the date of the election.

Each District Board shall set policy, procedures and regulations with respect to all affairs of the police in its district that they will insure the safety, justice and general well being of citizenry of each district and the general citizenry of the city of Chicago.

In addition, each District Police Board shall have the following powers and duties:

To review existing police policies and procedures within each district and to alter said policies and procedures ...

Each District Board shall receive complaints from citizens concerning police behavior in its district and shall hear such complaints, take evidence, make findings of fact and decisions pursuant to procedures promulgated by the City-wide Police Commission...shall have the power to suspend or fire for misconduct unbecoming an officer of the police...

All records of the police department at the district level shall be open to the District Police Board as they shall need them. The right of citizens to privacy shall be well guarded by the District Board.

The above points are but a part of the total control of police ordinance proposal. With such a watchdog ordinance in operation, it would be more than difficult for Chicago's infamous police to continue their barbarous practices against the city's poor residents.

The June 1st and 2nd Community Control of Police conference to be held in Chicago will feature as keynote speakers such notables as Huey P. Newton, Ralph Abernathy, Julian Bond and Fannie Lou Hamer. The conference will be held at the University of Illinois, Circle Campus.

Workshops will include community control of police and the mentioned ordinance proposal, voter registration, ward redistricting and cooperative economics. Conference registration is free and begins at 4:00 p.m. on June 1st.

Chicago has the highest rate of Black and poor people murdered by police than any other metropolitan city in the United States. It is infamous for the police assassination of Fred Hampton and Mark Clark, two members of the Black Panther Party at the time of their deaths on December 4, 1969.

Corruption inside Chicago's police department is rampant, reaching all the way up to the Superintendent's desk and further. In this light, THE BLACK PANTHER adds its voice in support of the scheduled control of police conference in Chicago and urges all those capable of participating to do so.

The Black Panther Intercommunal News Service

— Saturday, May 26, 1973

A COMMUNITY CONTROL OF POLICE CONFERENCE
JUNE 1st & 2nd, IN CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

SCHEDULE OF SPEAKERS: **BOBBY RUSH** - MODERATOR
HUEY P. NEWTON - THE BLACK PANTHER PARTY
RALPH ABERNATHY - PRESIDENT, S.C.L.C.
JULIAN BOND - GEORGIA STATE LEGISLATOR
FANNIE LOU HAMER - COMMUNITY ACTIVIST
RICHARD HATCHER - MAYOR, GARY, INDIANA
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WORKSHOPS:
COMMUNITY CONTROL OF POLICE
VOTER REGISTRATION
COOPERATIVE ECONOMICS
WARD REDISTRICTING

PROTESTS

continued from page 1

Bay Area experienced several thousand arrests and, after citizens had been held for between 6 and 72 hours, most were released without charges. Looting of downtown businesses was cited as justification for wholesale arrests of peaceful protesters on many subsequent occasions.

"Amazingly, the majority of people who protested and demonstrated in Oakland were peaceful."

Since the verdict finding three police officers not guilty of all charges, and failing to reach a verdict on one charge against a fourth officer charged with unlawfully beating King, and the resulting protests last April, many peaceful protesters and would be protesters have described themselves as "chilled out" — and for all understandable reasons — given the state of affairs and documented gross constitutional violations by the state and local criminal justice system.

"After 50 to 75 peaceful protesters, mostly African-Americans, marched from the City Hall plaza to Acorn Village and were returning to downtown," said Bonita Best, local activist and staff person with the Commemorator, "the police blocked the bridge across I-980 and told everyone that they should stay in West Oakland. They even said that protesters should stay where they belong. When the group, including children and adults, attempted to cross the bridge the motorcycle cops ran up on the sidewalks forcing people up against a wire mesh fence, on 14th Street near downtown and Preservation Park.

"At that point the police officers began to harass the group by yelling that if you wanted to go on the other side of the street that you would go to jail with the other people that they were going to arrest," stated Best.

"They wanted us to react to their police repression so that they would have a reason to attack us," said Hillary Brooks, a Bay Area activist arrested during a peaceful protest on the evening of May 2, near Duboce Park in San Francisco. "We were peacefully protesting that night and no one was violent or destroying property. But they arrested us and tried to provoke us to react to their harassment of us.

"They chased us from the park as we were preparing to peacefully march and many of the people who were to participate were intimidated and ran. Some of the people escaped without getting arrested. But I was one of the unlucky ones who was trapped in the process of trying to escape and injured my ankle." She further stated that while she was held along with 500 or 600 people protesters, she was unable to receive any medical attention.

"The previous week people were held over the weekend without any accommodations such as bathroom facilities. By the time they arrested me, on May 8th, the city was prepared. They held us at Pier 39 in a warehouse, and that night I had chronic hip pain. The whole thing was ridiculous. They were trying to scare us. Some people left. " All

Police are trained to use a "ladder of force"

protesters she knew of were subsequently released and never charged with any violation.

Charles Bartlett, activist student at Ohlone college at Fremont CA, recalls that on May 1st, after the African Student organization put on a rally at Sproul Plaza in Berkeley attracting three thousand students "we marched through the campus south side area and then Bancroft until we reached the Berkeley police station and then to Berkeley High. All types of students and youth showed up, fraternity types, engineer students, people involved in the People's Park scene... At that point a

Continued on page 14

KING

continued from page 1

sequent arrests King had, most on charges that were dropped and none involving PCP or fights with police.

Broadcast Allegations of PCP Refuted

Brutally beaten, King was taken to Pacifica Hospital Emergency room on March 3, 1991. The hospital personnel were told Rodney King was high on PCP by police, a statement that Dr. Antonio Mancia, the physician who attended King that night wrote down verbatim in his medical report. Dr. Mancia admitted during this second trial he "should have rewritten that statement to include the word alleged."

King called for peace during the two days that LA burned...He could have called for blood and gotten it!

Dr. Mancia who stitched the cuts inside Rodney King's mouth told the court no medical staff person would perform this procedure if a person is believed to be on PCP. He testified he found Rodney King "highly cooperative," a point that was further confirmed by nurse Caroline Edwards, who also testified she found Rodney King to be both "quiet and cooperative," a level of consciousness generally not found in PCP users.

Police are trained to use a "ladder of force" approach, beginning with the issuance of a verbal command, they can then use a firm grip, batons/stun guns (where legal), and finally choke holds, and/or their gun. They are to follow this procedure advancing from the least life threatening, to the most harmful.

Local residents have vowed they will not rest until they see an end to police violence. They have accused the federal prosecutors and judges of intentionally missing the point by restricting discrimination to the beating itself.

Institutional Racism: Beatings Three Times A Day

"Racial discrimination results from institutional decisions to stake out ghetto corners preferentially and stop blacks on Saturday nights. White corners are never under surveillance. White drivers are hardly ever stopped. There should never have been any occasion in which Rodney King could have been beaten," said one south central community activist. "That's what's racial about it. It happens three times a night and the victims are always black or Mexican, and anyway low income."

"Is the government prosecutor saying now the issue is 'did they hit Rodney King to many times; maybe they should have hit him less?' People went out in the streets because they'd seen the same thing happen so many times here in south central L.A., or had it done to them or their brothers or sons or friends. This time, by sheer chance, someone filmed it so nobody could deny what happened. Without that the L.A. District Attorney would never even have charged the police in the first place, just like they didn't charge those present who beat King's two passengers, despite their demands for recourse."

In spite of the defense's apparent attempts to portray King as a violent, drug using ex-con, what continues to emerge as this revealing of King's past proceeds, is that he is a young African American man, who, like so many others, was subdued by the demands of urban life which are making it nearly impossible for the poor to survive. He is functionally illiterate, he has admitted to the occasional use of drugs, and been in trouble with the law. But, he was also working at the Dodger's Stadium, until that night in 1991.

Placed on the stand March 10-11, 1993, King was described as "composed," "dignified," "cooperative," despite the gleeful attempts by the defense to jar him, pointing out gaps in his testimony, and the fact that he has difficulty reading.

Yet many point out that King called for peace during the two days that LA burned when he could have called for blood and gotten it! ■

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EDITORIAL

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itself by using its propaganda machine to label, villify and portray unpopularized target groups as slackers, deviant, potential or actual criminals and social parasites who don't pull their own weight.

Along these lines, Clinton has vowed a 500 percent increase from one to five billion dollars for subjecting welfare mothers, over half of whom are single parents, to forced labor, at sub-poverty-level wages. Clinton also vows to expand student and apprenticeship programs which pay far below minimum wage based on certificates issued by the Secretary of Labor, under the Fair Labor Standards Act. 29 USCS § 213.

The maximum wage that employers must pay in any event is less than or equal to benefits that such persons were receiving or would have received under AFDC, refugee or SSI assistance.

Sub-poverty-level wage job training, as opposed to living wage jobs, is one of misery capitalism's new growth industries, which also provides the profit sector with billions in free government grants, gifts, subsidies, tax breaks, reimbursements and other incentives, paid out of the public's pocket-book.

Billions For the Profit Sector

A central theme of "Clintonomics," is its incorporation and expansion of right-wing-fascist, supply-side, trickle-down aspects of the Job Partnership Training, Enterprise Zone Development, and other acts which give the profit sector billions out of the public's pocket, while providing them with a state-enforced, forced labor system, disguised as job training.

The federal Enterprise Zone Development Act at 42 U.S.C.S. § 11501 (d) (2); provides financial assistance, including land given free or sold at below market prices out of the public's pocket-book to for-profit employers.

The Enterprise Zone Development Act, § 11501(1)(4) provides for payment of financial assistance, out of the public's pocket-book, to for-profit employers, including multi-national corporations for the purpose of expanding existing business operations to include new branches, subsidiaries and affiliated enterprises.

The JTPA, at 29 U.S.C.S. § 1551(G); provides financial assistance, paid out of the public's pocket-book, to reimburse employers for 50 percent of the sub-poverty-level wages paid to forced labor participants in state-enforced so-called work experience programs.

The fact that the JTPA, at § 1583(a)(b), provides for continuation of medicaid and handicapped assistance payments to so-called trainees, demonstrates legislative intent that the wages paid be so low that the recipients of these wages would not be able to afford health-care as part of the cost of living.

The Act, at § 1604(7), provides for payment of public money, to private sector for operation of so-called job training programs, which pay sub-poverty-level wages while supplying employers with reimbursements, gifts, grants, subsidies, tax credits and other forms of public welfare.

The JTPA, at § 1791g(c), provides for payment of tax-payers money, by way of state governors, to private sector and other so-called service providers, of incentive bonus payments for the placement of so-called employable dependent individuals in jobs. The maximum wage that employers *must* pay is less than or equal to the benefits payable to such persons under the AFDC, refugee or SSI assistance.

It is precisely the receipt of this AFDC, refugee or SSI assistance, that subjected these persons to mandatory state-enforced labor at sub-poverty-level wages in the first place.

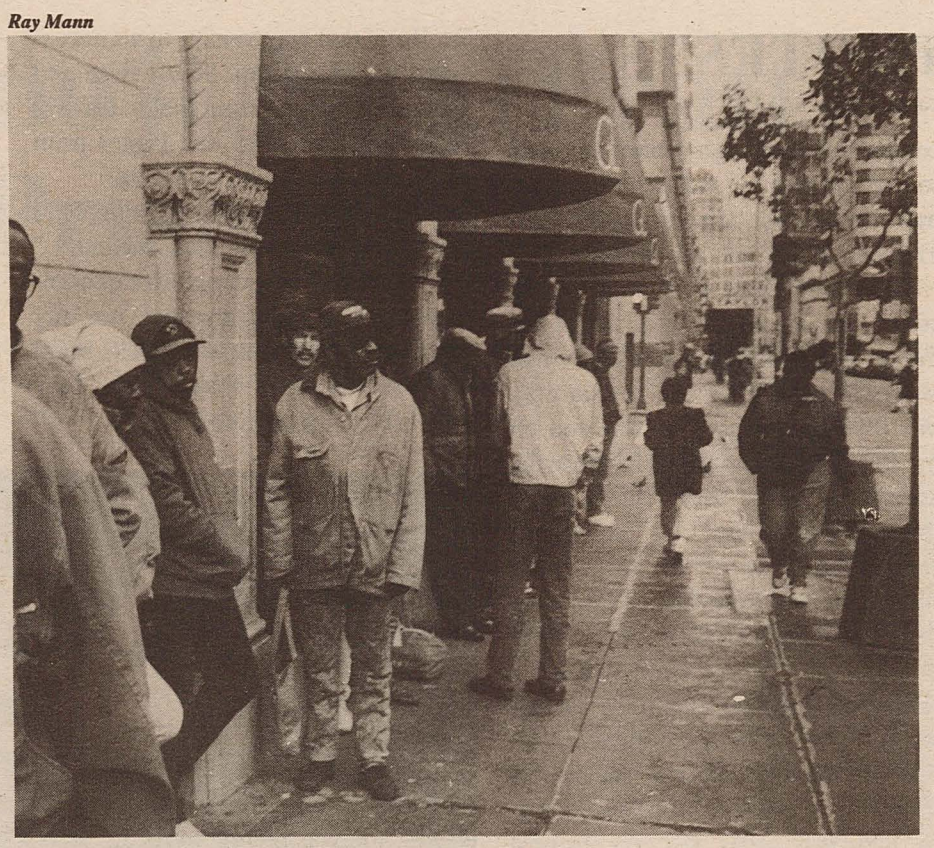
The same calculations apply which make the maximum monthly wages that can be earned equal to AFDC payable.

Clinton's Maximum Wage Is Less Than Welfare

The maximum pay required by law under these provisions of the JTPA supported by Clinton, is less than or equal to welfare or disability benefits received or receivable.

The JTPA, 29 U.S.C.S.§1551(g); provides federal funds for reimbursing for-profit employers 50 percent of trainee wages paid during "work experience" programs lasting six months or less. This form of welfare for the profit sector reimburses "service providers" for 50 percent of overall work experience program costs.

Ray Mann



Many forms of involuntary servitude (slavery) will be made available to those no longer useful to decaying production industries.

The maximum wage employers must pay work experience trainees is specified as not exceeding the prevailing entry-level wage for the same occupation in the same labor market area.

The labor market areas must contain substantial unemployment, relatively high percentages of economically and low income persons, who under residency requirements must live and undergo "job training" in the same prevailing entry-level wage area.

Hence the oversupply of labor, and undersupply of available jobs which pay higher wages, will operate under the laws of supply and demand to hold wages, especially entry-level wages, very low.

Entry-level wages for so-called work experience trainees, is the maximum wage. However, the plain language of the statute does not prohibit employers from paying wages below entry-level during programs lasting six months or less. In practice, wages are held down in proportion to the maximum reimbursement guaranteed to employers out of the public's pocket-book.

The JTPA, 29 U.S.C.S. § 151(b)(2)(A)(ii), (b)(3) and (c)92)9B)(v); provides federal money out of the public's pocket-book to reimburse profit sector and other so-called service providers for 100 percent of the costs of operating work experience programs lasting nine months or more.

These so-called work experience programs which has a nine months and beyond with no specified end point, do not contain any provisions requiring accredited classroom or vocational training components or any pre-employment contract to hire upon completion of training. Trainees in work experience programs lasting nine months or more are not limited to one work experience training cycle and can rotate endlessly between one "work experience" and the next, all at sub-poverty-level wages.

Although wages may exceed the prevailing entry-level under these long term work experience programs, the profit sector and other so called service providers are reimbursed for 100 percent of costs out of the public's pocket-book.

This doubled reimbursement rate for costs associated with shorter term programs favors cycling so-called trainees through longer term programs, do not require wages above entry level be paid.

Under this scenario profit sector and other recipients of 100 percent reimbursements, can receive these payments out of the public's pocket-book and still pay sub-poverty-level wages, no higher than entry-level. It's clear Clintonomics cannot base any claims of creating the higher

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PROTESTS

Continued from page 12

couple hundred high school students joined the march, and from there we marched down University to 880 Freeway and to the Bay bridge.

"We were just marching in the street, we did not have a permit but everything was peaceful. People had signs and some people were chanting. We (800 protesters) got arrested on the Bay Bridge and the CHP made the arrests and they called in (I guess through mutual aid) AC Transit bus service came up on the bridge and they arrested everybody who was there and took us to Santa Rita. They put us in Posta Camp House. I remember they put this thing on our wrist. There were a lot of people who felt like their circulation was cut off then they booked all of us and put us in holding cells for six hours. Everybody was then released after they processed us.

According to the San Francisco Public Defender's office, of 1500 arrests made during the protests, 30 were for felonies, of which 80% were plea-bargained, and only about 20 misdemeanor charges were filed. This means about 1450 of those arrested were ultimately charged with no crime.

In the East Bay, more than 400 people where arrested on the upper tier of the Bay bridge, and Berkeley declared a 7pm curfew, yet Mayor Loni Hancock and Council member Ann Chandler led a group that went to Santa Rita jail with city vans to transport UC Berkeley students who had been arrested on the Bay Bridge. The first night after the verdict, Berkeley arrested 54 adults and 14 juveniles, mostly on charges of burglary, arson, possession of stolen property and resisting arrest, according to Oakland Tribune's staff writer, William Brand and Brett Mahoney.

From Richmond, Pinole and San Pablo, a noon rally at Pinole Valley High escalated into a more than 10-mile march by about 250 students who briefly closed part of interstate 80 and demonstrated in the Richmond Civic Center Plaza.

"I would say that the protest was generally peaceful," said California Highway Patrol officer Lora Hardy. Tom Grant of the Berkeley police department said that "Except for about 5 hours on Telegraph Ave., the first night after the verdict, the protest was peaceful."

"We were charged with an infraction," Bartlett noted. "I think that it was equivalent to a jay-walking ticket. But if that was true it wasn't necessary to take us to Santa Rita and detain us in holding cells for six hours, and book us and finger print us. There was a fine of $150."

He did not recall anyone being held over. "Everybody was released." However he knew of no offer of compensation to those arrested, nor any effort to organize or seek legal redress for those who charge they were illegally detained.

Jennifer Cheek

By in large protesters and demonstrators were peaceful.

"What I find outrageous," said Bartlett, "is that after the verdict when the state of emergency was called in SF and in this area, they had AC Transit as part of state repression and the whole state apparatus was involved. The whole public transportation system was involved. At the BART station they have those little TV monitors they had all over the place. During the rebellion, on those monitors they had messages that said, If you see a group of youth on the BART train contact the BART police officers. Then on the PA system, the driver was warning passengers to 'look out for groups, especially if they were black.'"

"I also think that a lot of the arrests that were made in that 3-day period, they did that so that many of those people would not go back out and protest again. I remember how, during the rebellion — when it hit the fan — a couple hour later, the state assembly passed a law that they could hold people for seven day without trial.

"They knew what they were doing" he said. "That night, they took us to Santa Rita just for an infraction. They were just doing this to keep us away from Berkeley. They were just doing this to keep us away from Berkeley and Oakland, to keep the students away so that they would not go out and participate again in the demonstrations.

"Many residents and observers report increased police use of helicopters since the protests, circling over peaceful demonstrations to intimidate, including demonstrations against the killing of Jerrold Hall (a 19-year-old black youth recently shot in the back of the head by a BART policeman 15 November 1993).

Despite the increased devastation and poverty since last year's unrest, the Clinton administration has proposed go give the financially strapped city of Los Angeles as much as $1.7 million to establish a highly visible police presence in the days before verdicts are announced in the Rodney King police beating trial, according to Governor Wilson's aide, Franz Wiusner. "The governor wants to use the money to deploy law enforcement personnel before any potential trouble develops and to send a strong message that a repeat of last year will not be tolerated."

But the Los Angeles Police Department is saying that the $1.7 million is not enough. They estimate the cost at $1.5 million per day to fully deploy its officers. ■

Protests against the shooting death of Jerrold Hall by a BART policeman 15 November, 1992 were subject to helicopter surveillance which has become increasingly common since the Rodney King protests.

Clockwise from top left: Lionel Polk (John Owens' father); John Owens graduation photo; Polk and Cornelius Hall (father of Jerrold Hall) speak to media at Owens' preliminary hearing; attorney for the Hall and Owens families; Officer Crabtree; public speaks out at BART Board meeting; rally outside BART meeting.

Panthers

Continued from page 5

and attendance opportunities to educational pinnacles such as the prestigious St. Olaf College and Carlton College of Northfield, Minnesota to those being laid off to ease some of the economic blow.

Carlton College's most famous graduate was coincidently Thorstein Veblen, who had pronounced upon the working class of the world what is probably to be its second greatest document of intention and direction, *The Theory of the Leisure Class*.

Veblen's mighty doctrine, and its central theme, conspicuous consumption, thundered out from this small committee surrounding this black football player who with the political consciousness put forward by the Party and its Chairman turned for lack of other alternatives and aligned himself with the layer of anti-war protest existing on the campus. At the same time, that alignment was being picked up by the grandiloquent minority of black students, along with a few of Japanese exchange and extraction, bringing the snake dance form of organization to action, which suited the tiny group of emigres from Carlton quite well as they semi-established themselves as Shakespeare would have it said, "even into the cannon's mouth" as individuals in the various departments of the huge component institution left their presence there as intellectual revolution for that minority of young blacks, who began to Afro their hair, to find that a dashiki is an almost perfect wardrobe complement when one attends courses on altered financial resources.

The first week did not slip by before the sports page of the Minneapolis Star was asking why Black Panther partisans and programs were beginning to appear in Golden Gopher land at the beginning of the best year the Big Ten could feel since Red Grange. In short, where Panther intellectualism was suddenly stilled by the disappearance of eloquent Panther spokesmen moving from the streets of Oakland into the hills of Berkeley, national universities where anti-war activity was being followed by minority financial adversity, began to pick up the physical evidence of Black Panther Party mentality residence extending itself out into the white community. Ann Arbor, Michigan and Madison, Wisconsin were to follow immediately.

By June of the following year the

BPP has earned total retreat of an enemy nation for the first time in history extending one man's liberation to an entire social machine.

BPP, now shorn of its ancillary altruistic definitive of "for self defense," had been wrenched through vigorous birthrights into the highly practical matter of campus- generated entities of physical activities toward its own 10-point benefit program in the form of support from the student community; whether by speeches and individual university grants, or dollar or dime at a time from students who at the same time made up the highly volatile independent caucus movement of Students for a Democratic Society.

Meantime, Stonybrook University at New York's Long Island found itself under the opposing forces of Cliff Cannfield's dogmatically-leaning Maoist tendency. Ex-student body president Lonny Wolfe was backing a home residency program among the generation of ex-migrant farm workers who had been organized by ex-Vista organizer Arthur Mitchell, Lutheran pastor Arthur Bryant, and the volatile and fiery Mitchell Cohen — who edited, sometimes in groups and sometimes in-camera, an anarchistic-leaning student newspaper still in existence from time to time and place to place in 1993 — into a periphery national convention which was to take place there under pre-negotiated agreement by the college president, with all physical activity centering in on the Railroad Ave. Farm Worker Service Center. This was copied in form with absolutely no contact in the formulation by Jesus Salas' Farmworker Extension Services of Ann Arbor, Michigan and Crystal City, Texas which planted smaller support groups in Austin and College Station, Texas.

This organic process repeated tens of thousands of times within a very short time period spread the intellectual understanding and acceptance of BPP theory and organization.

Huey P. Newton's extended imprisonment ended the day of the Moon Walk when he, fresh from an enforced tour of solitary confinement in the hated jail, ripped the county jail smock from his shoulders and stepped up on a temporary podium dais to the throaty cheers of some 300 loyalists who had been showing up daily at the jail while awaiting district court decision on his petition for readmission to bail.

He was also awaited by a group of Panther militants and friends including those from Emeryville and San Francisco who had affected rough cut cowboy boots, Levi's and Levi jackets for the occasion.

Perhaps it was the timing of history, perhaps the natural by-product of tightly drawn Hegelian hegemony insisted on by the government, but at the moment the 38 year old Neil Armstrong splashed down safely in the Pacific, 28 year old Huey Newton was released from the holding pen. Except time and place, when that release practically guaranteed all at question, Huey P. raised his bare smoothly muscled arms to the roar of approval of the crowd about him.

A friend of the massive, "Free Huey" fraction of American thinking which had come into existence in the individual sense the second the original shot was fired, retired into a colloquium — a Mexican supporter who had been speaking to the crowd waiting for the announcements of Armstrong and company to be over, went on with his train of thought.

The voice continued, "Today is obviously considered to be the greatest in technological history ever brought forward. Historically, though, it comes down to this: the U.S. had just proven that it can send two white men in white suits with American flags on their backs 250,000 miles into space, have them plant the American flag and come back safely. They own the technique and the provisions. But here in downtown Oakland there is some insistence on the other side of the program. Do they at this time possess the bodily skill or technology of mind to get those same two men dressed the same way, advocating the reasons, into downtown Oakland and back out without exposing the whole world to the doubt, disgust, and distrust of those whose company they daily keep on the streets of their cities, in their fields and in their schools? They can get those two men to the moon and back again alive." Are they sufficiently strong to commit themselves to the same program in downtown Oakland?"

The crowd roared back a defiant "No!" Huey P. Newton thanked his supporters for remaining with him for his long fight for political readmission to a struggle that during the time of his trouble, in which the amoeba-like growth of the Black Panther Party had ended, and instantaneous infrastructure had sensually become one with the BPP mentality to the reality of the growth of appendages of need, forcing the party to walk the walk of its benefits questions in downtown Oakland into a national program of highly centralized individual concentration.

As far as the need in the streets was concerned, the BPP has earned total retreat of an enemy nation for the first time in history extending one man's liberation to an entire social machine.

Peltier

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and prosecution evidence which Peltier's supporters say is proven to consist of false affidavits and concocted physical evidence, that may help free Peltier.

The incident at Oglala was one of the ongoing actions of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the FBI and the GOONS (Guardians of the Oglala Nation) acting as a private police force of the former tribal chairman, Richard Wilson. During that time, some 500 violent attacks against AIM and its supporters on Pine Ridge went uninvestigated. It was also the period when Wilson was engaged in land transfers to both the federal government and private concerns against the interests of the Lakota people. Much of the mineral-rich land on the Pine Ridge Reservation was sought by both parties.

In Peltier's hearing for a third appeal of his conviction, the government admitted it has no witnesses to tie Peltier to the killing. The attorneys for the government said, "We had numerous shooters. We don't know who fired which killing shots." When asked by one of the judges, "What do you mean by 'know'?" the attorney replied that the prosecution lacked a witness. The Judge commented, "Well, that seems quite significant to me."1992 was decreed the "Year of the American Indian." Indigenous people are looking to see if there has been any change in the legal system that sends them to jails and prisons in disproportionate numbers. Or is it just the same old story: for Indian people there is no such thing as a fair trial. ■

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Editorial

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paying jobs on any of these peonage programs.

MEMBERS OF TARGETED GROUPS

The expansion of modern American serfdom, peonage, involuntary servitude and prison slavery, disguised as sub-poverty-level-wage job training, begins, but does not end with certain targeted groups. These targeted groups over

The expansion of modern American serfdom, peonage, involuntary servitude and prison slavery, disguised as sub-poverty-level-wage job training, begins, but does not end with certain targeted groups.

large and rapidly growing sectors of the population who are categorically indentified by federal and state law.

Members of targeted groups include:

(1) single female heads of household who makes up over one half of the seven million U. S. families declared by congress to be living in poverty;

(2) recipients and members of families receiving local, state or federal welfare payments;

(3) individuals and families whose total family income for six months prior to eligibility determination, excluding unemployment compensation, child support and welfare payments, and considering family size, does not exceed the higher of the poverty level defined by the office of Management and Budget, or 70 percent of "lower living standard income level," defined by 29 U.S.C.S. § 1503(16);

(4) persons receiving food stamps under the Food Stamp Act of 1977;

(5) homeless persons as defined by the Stewart B. McKinney Act, 42 U.S.C.S. § 11302;

(6) foster children on whose behalf state or local government welfare payments are made;

(7) handicapped adults, with permission of the Secretary of Labor, who receive or whose family receives or does not receive local, or state welfare payments;

(8) any adult or juvenile offender at any stage in the criminal justice process, arrest, bail, probation, prison, or parole;

(9) unemployed individuals as defined by the Bureau of Labor Statistics;

(10) veterans, including, disabled, recently separated and Vietnam era veterans.

(11) persons who were homemakers for a substantial number of years and derived substantial support from a spouse who is now dead, permanently disabled, separated or divorced, or who once received AFDC support;

(12) Migrant and seasonal farm workers, students, apprentices and learners;

(13) Native Americans receiving federal welfare assistance under the Snyder Act of 1921, 25 U.S.C. § 13;

(14) refugees receiving cash or medical assistance under the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C.S.§ 1522(e);

(15) older disadvantaged Americans and other disadvantaged persons.

During the Reagan and Bush era global fascism's private sector, multinational corporate business, and its bought and paid for public sector, the U.S. government, as a matter of policy, stopped long-term investment which could have created living wage, higher paying jobs in the U.S.

Instead the private sector financed production in ultra-cheap foreign labor markets. In places such as Indonesia, Nike corporation pays factory workers 15 cents an hour to produce expensive athletic footwear. The U.S. government under Clinton is financing development of the U.S. infrastructure necessary for exploitation of state enforced, modern

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Too Little

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the problem, passing the welfare on to companies in the form of subsidized and captive labor.

In Washington D.C. and on Wall Street, reducing the deficit means that wealthy individuals like H. Ross Perot, who has lent to the U. S. Treasury through financial instruments like U. S. Treasury bonds, will receive repayment at taxpayer expense. Perot alone holds $2.6 billion in federal securities; if he were never repaid his personal fortune would decline to a mere $1 billion plus.

Ray Mann

It's too late for Head Start to compensate those who are still paying the price of concentrating more wealth in 1% of the population than is held by the bottom 90%.

These ironically are the same people Clinton would ask to help lower the deficit by paying a little more taxes. This to them is like "seeding the pot;" they lose nothing, continue to profit and get paid six, seven and eight figure salaries, while our low-income communities are left in the dust. After the dust has settled in poor neighborhoods across the board, health, and welfare, already stripped to the bone, are abandoned.

Enterprise Zones, advocated for twelve years by the Reagan and Bush administrations, but never passed by the Democratic-controlled Congress, are on the Clinton administration's fast track as aid to low income communities. During the last election campaign, incumbent George Bush tried to distinguish himself from Clinton and Ross Perot by his firm advocacy of enterprise zones. A president and congress of the same party — Mr. Bush's recent opponents — firmly supporting the concept appears to be the first chance that federal zones will become reality.

There is to date no example of a successful enterprise zone anywhere. More than half of the states have zone programs already. The General Accounting Office reported to Congress in 1988 that there was no evidence the zones increased employment. In New Jersey, state employment statistics showed 6000 jobs lost immediately outside a newly opened enterprise zone, supporting critics' charge that zones merely move existing jobs into zones for depressed wage scales and taxpayer- financed subsidies.

South central Los Angeles, promised enterprise zones by Bush, Clinton, Mayor Bradley, Jesse Jackson, and virtually every other politician who came to have photos taken after the protests against the first Rodney King verdict were suppressed, got a taste of what this could mean when a "super-zone" bill (SB 18X) was introduced in the California

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Too Little

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legislature last summer. Co-sponsored by the entire Senate Republican Caucus, the "super- zone" sought to suspend the state and federal minimum wage for jobs in south central, allow medical plans to be reduced below the level required by state law, intimidate applicants for workers compensation in the zone with threats of fraud prosecution, and authorize school districts that would be separate from but purportedly equal to those of the main Los Angeles district.

As recently as a few days ago, President Bill Clinton agreed with Congress and "budget experts" to an additional $55 billion cut from proposed social welfare spending in order to make sure the federal deficit is reduced by $140 billions. It is widely expected that those cuts will come on the backs of the already poor and working communities who are already experiencing devastation because of poverty. Budget Director Leon Panetta gave his approval of a slow down in research and development of technology investment but said the president will oppose any attempt to choke off money to Head Start, the program to aid inner-city underprivileged pre-school children.

Head Start

This program was also a "sacred cow" of the Bush Administration. But why is Head Start to be protected at all cost, when public schools are experiencing cuts in funding that have led to overcrowded class rooms, teacher's strikes from the frustration of dealing with the decaying intercity school system with few resources? At a time when the state is imposing raises in college tuition and other fees? Saving Head Start as a solution to poverty, without properly addressing the broader issue of decent income and jobs for the entire low-income communities, is like the right-wing anti-abortionist, who fights to save the life of an infant destined for poverty, then fights to have him jailed and executed when his impoverished life turns him to crime and violence in order to survive.

"The complete elimination of poverty does not seem to be on Mr. Clinton's agenda" said a working mother in Oakland, California. "Head Start and all poverty programs would not be needed if the low-income community would have the opportunity to advance from low-income to decent-income and self- empowerment — not just for the few lucky ones but for the entire low-income community.

" 'Reducing the federal deficit' is a nice name for paying money to a class of people who already are wealthy," said a veteran African-American labor organizer. "Let's not forget that the richest one percent of Americans now own more wealth than the bottom 90 percent! This is the biggest imbalance in wealth in this country since the early 1930s. There isn't any guarantee that any of this money will even be invested in the U.S. or in jobs of any nature, much less jobs paying a decent wage.

There's nothing in a Head Start program that addresses the broader needs, the whole nine yards, in poor communities.

Labor is a lot cheaper in Thailand or the Phillipines, and getting cheaper in the USA through enterprise zones and the transition to service jobs."

With approval of the state of Oregon's "health care rationing" plan, commonly referred to as death squad medicine by low income worker associations who have led the fight to oppose it, the Clinton administration has established the first model of what "reform" will bring for low income patients. The plan ranks 688 medical procedures, and currently will pay for people below the federal poverty line but not previously covered by Medicaid without private funds or health insurance to receive treatments ranked 1 through 568. However, if you need a liver transplant for any reason, including liver cancer, therapy for chronic back disorders (a frequent occupational problem of low-paid domestic workers, day laborers, and others least able to afford treatment), therapy for infectious mononucleosis, or any of 120 other procedures, you get all the care your money can buy. Low income working families who make a little more than the federal poverty line, but far from enough to afford either regular preventive care or the high cost of most acute care will receive no coverage at all under the current plan. Oregon State Senator Dave Kennemer exposed the class and racial bias of the plan by introducing a motion on the floor of the senate to provide exactly the same medical coverage for all state legislators, legislative aides, and members of the governor's staff, provoking an angry demand from the plan's sponsor, Senate President Kitzhaber, (widely known as Dr. Death) that he withdraw the motion. After he refused, it was overwhelmingly voted down.

While infant mortality rate dropped to a record of 9.2 in 1990, down from 9.8 in 1989, African American babies died at more than twice the rate of whites and the gap is growing. There is nothing in a Head Start program that addresses the broader needs — the whole nine yards — in poor communities. Even with a head start there is no guarantee that that infant who later excels in academics will ever contribute to his or her low-income community. It is no guarantee that they will survive the war zones or the poverty that surrounds them. And if they did "succeed" in advancing their economic standing they are more likely want to escape from their communities than to fight the conditions they left. To escape poverty is to desert one's community for a lack of economic opportunity, rather than fight for all to be able to earn a decent living where ever one might live, be it in the flatland of Oakland or the ghettoes of South Africa and the barrios in Mexico. That was what the Black Panthers and other groups agitated for, not for a growing gap between blacks who have "made it" and those who were "left behind".

No one in power, democrat or republican is talking about decent wages for all people who work but only talk about jobs as a solution in itself. Poverty is a lack of money, not a lack of work to do or jobs. Hitler put people to work by the thousands, millions, at little or no pay. Many went into "labor corps" which performed public works, built infrastructure, and inspired a fervent esprit de corps in service to the "Fatherland."

So far Clinton has not spoken of a plan for raising the income of working families to a standard that would allow them to afford adequate food, clothing, housing, health care, etc. In fact jobs that pay adequate incomes will face a new challenges under the Clinton Administration: Clinton plans to move welfare recipients into the workforce to work for their welfare and students into the workforce to work for their student loans raises the obvious but unanswered question — whose jobs will they be taking? States and counties have had work for welfare programs for many years, and they have all displaced civil service, or privately employed workers at much lower cost.

Support came from normally Republican Silicon Valley executives such as John Sculley, a personal friend of George Bush and former Pepsico CEO who took over Apple Computer Co. from its founders after being hired ten years ago. ■

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Black Panther Party 10-Point Program

WHAT WE WANT, WHAT WE BELIEVE

1. WE WANT FREEDOM. WE WANT POWER TO DETERMINE THE DESTINY OF OUR BLACK AND OPPRESSED COMMUNITIES.

We believe that Black and oppressed people will not be free until we are able to determine our destinies in our own communities ourselves, by fully controlling all the institutions which exist in our communities.

2. WE WANT FULL EMPLOYMENT FOR OUR PEOPLE.

We believe that the federal government is responsible and obligated to give every person employment or a guaranteed income. We believe that if the American businessmen will not give full employment, then the technology and means of production should be taken from the businessmen and placed in the community so that the people of the community can organize and employ all of its people and give a high standard of living.

3. WE WANT AN END TO THE ROBBERY BY THE CAPITALIST OF OUR BLACK AND OPPRESSED COMMUNITIES.

We believe that the racist government has robbed us and now we are demanding the overdue debt of forty acres and two mules. Forty acres and two mules were promised 100 years ago as restitution for slave labor and mass murder of Black people. We will accept the payment in currency which will be distributed to our many communities. The American racist has taken part in the slaughter of over fifty million Black people. Therefore, we feel this is a modest demand that we make.

4. WE WANT DECENT HOUSING, FIT FOR THE SHELTER OF HUMAN BEINGS.

We believe that if the landlords will not give decent housing to our Black and oppressed communities, then housing and the land should be made into cooperatives so that the people on our communities, with government aid, can build and make decent housing for the people.

5. WE WANT EDUCATION FOR OUR PEOPLE THAT EXPOSES THE TRUE NATURE OF THIS DECADENT AMERICAN SOCIETY. WE WANT EDUCATION THAT TEACHES US OUR TRUE HISTORY AND OUR ROLE IN THE PRESENT-DAY SOCIETY.

We believe in an educational system that will give to our people a knowledge of self, If you do not have knowledge of yourself and your position in the society and the world, then you will have little chance to know anything else.

6. WE WANT COMPLETELY FREE HEALTH CARE FOR ALL BLACK AND OPPRESSED PEOPLE.

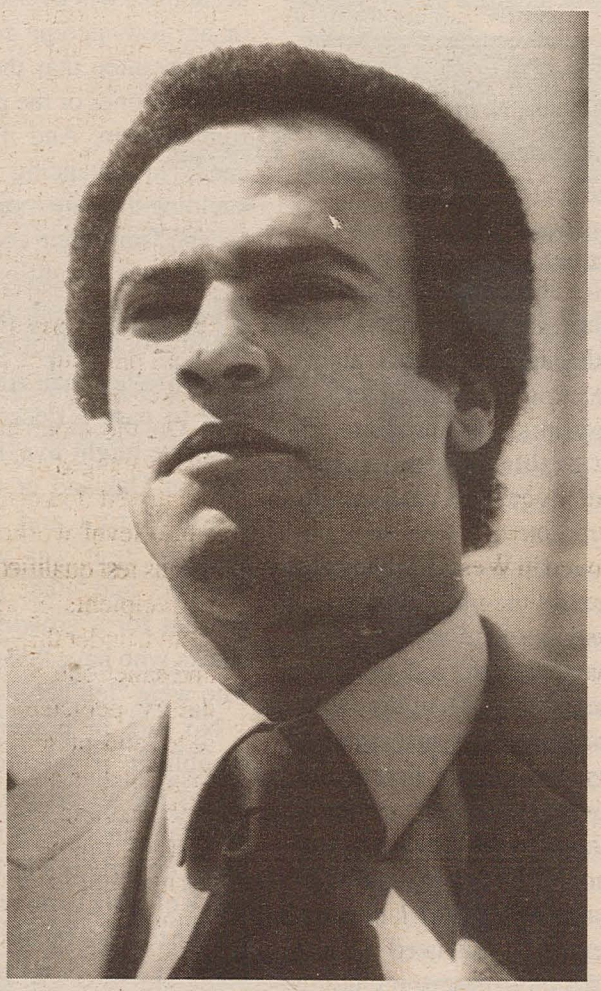
We believe that the government must provide, free of charge, for the people, health facilities which will not only treat our Illnesses, most of which have come about as a result of our oppression, but which will also develop preventative medical programs to guarantee our future survival. We believe that mass health education and research programs must be developed to give all Black and oppressed people access to advanced scientific and medical information, so we may provide ourselves with proper medical attention and care.

7. WE WANT AN IMMEDIATE END TO POLICE BRUTALITY AND MURDER OF BLACK PEOPLE, OTHER PEOPLE OF COLOR, ALL OPPRESSED PEOPLE INSIDE THE UNITED STATES.

We believe that the racist and fascist government of the United States uses its domestic enforcement agencies to carry out its program of oppression against Black people, other people of color,a nd poor people inside the United States. We believe its our right, therefore, to defend ourselves against such armed forces and that all Black and oppressed people should be armed for self-defense of our homes and communities against these fascist police forces.

8. WE WANT AN IMMEDIATE END TO ALL WARS OF AGRESSION.

We believe that the various conflicts which exist around the world stem directly from the aggressive desires if the U.S. ruling circle and government to force its domination upon the oppressed people of the world. We believe that if the U.S. government or its lackeys do not cease these aggressive wars that it is the right of the people to defend themselves by any means necessary against their aggressors.



Black Panther Co-Founder, Dr. Huey P. Newton

9. WE WANT FREEDOM FOR ALL BLACK AND OPPRESSED PEOPLE NOW HELD IN U.S. FEDERAL, STATE, COUNTY, CITY, AND MILITARY PRISONS AND JAILS. WE WANT TRIALS BY A JURY OF PEERS FOR ALL PERSONS CHARGED WITH SO-CALLED CRIMES UNDER THE LAWS OF THIS COUNTRY.

We believe that the many Black and poor oppressed people now held in U.S. prisons and jails have not received fair and impartial trials under a racist and fascist judicial system and should be free from incarceration. We believe in the ultimate elimination of all wretched, inhuman penal institutions, because the masses of men and women imprisoned inside the United States or by the U.S. military are the victims of oppressive conditions which are the real cause of their imprisonment. We believe that when persons are brought to trial that they must be guaranteed, by the United States, juries of their peers, attorneys of their choice and freedom from imprisonment while awaiting trials.

10. WE WANT LAND, BREAD, HOUSING, EDUCATION, CLOTHING, JUSTICE, PEACE AND PEOPLE'S COMMUNITY CONTROL OF MODERN TECHNOLOGY.

When, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume, among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the laws of nature and nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation. We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. That, to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed; that, whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish it, and to institute a new government, laying its foundation on such principles, and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and, accordingly, all experience hath shown that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But, when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same object, evinces a design to reduce them under absolute despotism., it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such government, and to provide new guards for their future security.

Sickle Cell

Continued from 4

tunistic) His response was basically because of the pressure of the Black Panther Party.

The BPP clinic in the East bay opened up in 1971 and it was originally called the Bobby Seale Free Clinic because Bobby Seale was in prison. When he got out of prison we changed the name to George Jackson Free Clinic.

Looking back, I think I wrote this about 3-years ago. It says, "Thus the ghetto's health care mirrored the institutional racism of our society. As national chairman of the Black Panther Party's Sickle Cell Anemia project, we dramatized the American government's neglect of sickle cell anemia. These were the times in which volunteer organizations raised $7.9 million for muscular dystrophy but less than $100,000 for sickle cell anemia. Nationally, according to Bobby Seale's estimates, the Black Panther Party's free clinics tested and counselled over a million black patients about sickle cell anemia. To provide survival programs pending the election of a socially responsible government, the Black Panther Party operated nine free clinics in Seattle, Los Angeles, Berkeley, New Haven, Portland, Chicago, Boston, New York, and Philadelphia.

the Black Panther Party's free clinics tested and counselled over a million black patients about sickle cell anemia.

Q: Are you familiar with this new drug that is supposed to treat sickle cell anemia and the controversy around manufacturing it?

Dr. Small: What I know is what I read in the newspaper. But someone was telling me that U.C. Berkeley and Children's Hospital — with their research scientists — if they discover anything then the Hospital and the University get the patent for it. Dr. Perrine and another physician in Canada found out a substance as simple as a fat, butyrate, that it seems to raise fetal hemoglobin. When you are born you have a hemoglobin called fetal hemoglobin. It is very high, but as you get older, it goes down. We found that the people with sickle cell anemia who have a high fetal hemoglobin don't have these painful crises.

What happens in a crisis is the blood cell sickles and plugs up the arterial flow and you actually get small bits of tissue, what they call infarct and it is very painful. So when you have a lot of the fetal hemoglobin you don't have the crisis as often. So when she [one of the researchers] gave the people the butyrate they didn't have the sickling as often.

But part of the controversy around the recent sickle cell drug treatment, from what I read in the newspaper, was that the Children's Hospital wanted her [Dr. Perrine] to sign an agreement with a West German pharmaceutical company to manufacture it so they could use it under control studies and get it approved. She wanted it to be made available in the United States. She wanted a contract that the control study be done in the United States because the FDA won't allow it to come into this country if it's approved in West Germany. They have to do all their research here. So she refused to sign the agreement. And what I could gather from the newspaper was that Children's Hospital locked her out of her lab and hired a guard to escort her out of the building. But I guess they worked it out because I hear she's back there now.

And also what I gathered from the newspaper is that she [Dr. Perrine] wanted an intravenous (IV) form as well as oral form of the drug. She wanted something, IV form, so that people could take that to prevent them from going into the hospital.

She [Dr. Perrine] would tell you, if she knows the history, that the reason they are able to get federal grants goes back over twenty-years through the work of the Black Panther Party. ■

Editorial

Continued from 16

peonage, involuntary servitude, and prison slave labor system, in neo-colonized ghettos, prisons and enterprise zones.

These partial frameworks include: the Job Training Partnership Act, the Job Opportunities and Basic Skills Training Programs Act, the Enterprise Zone Development Act, the Family Support Act of 1988 - 1989, the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as Amended, the state and local Law Enforcement Assistance Programs, and various amendments to local, state and federal laws governing employment of offenders.

As evidenced by our previous discussion, these and related laws provide billions in government grants, gifts, reimbursements, subsidies, tax breaks and give-aways, to the private profit sector while purchasing the support and assistance of government funded, poverty pimp organizations — all paid out of the working class's pocket-book.

On the other hand, economically disadvantaged unemployed and underemployed lower-living-standard income level workers, and income or means test qualified government benefit recipients or applicants, are subjected, under threat of benefit cut-offs and sanctions, to state enforced mandatory peonage, involuntary servitude, and prison slavery. All this is disguised as sub-poverty-level wage "job training," while private profit sector employers get billions in government kickbacks. This is Clintonomics.

Global fascism's deliberate policy of not investing in the creation of higher paying, living wage jobs at home but investing instead in lower paying, non-living wage jobs both at home and abroad, decreased the overall number of higher paying, living wage jobs worldwide. The resulting unemployment created an oversupply of labor competing for these jobs thereby driving wages down as an effect of the laws of supply and demand.

Wages were further driven down by the creation of low paying non-living wage jobs at home and abroad.

Productivity rose in the short term but so did the cost of living, which in the face of lower wages and less or no benefits, means that people were working for less, and finding it harder and harder to get by.

The already too low income of the working class is further diminished, by deductions which the government, deducts from income in a fraudulent and failed attempt to narrow the gap between living costs and income, by taking the money out of the public's pocket-book, as increased taxes and fees, to pay for government so-called income maintenance programs.

Is it not a better policy to close the gap between working living costs and income, by requiring that wages and benefits consistent with the true cost of living be paid in the first place out of the pockets of those who profit from what the working class produces? Instead the government allows those who profit to further their profit by keeping the money that would close that gap between incomes and expenses if paid to us in their private pocket-books, and takes more money out of the public's pocket-book, which does not close the gap.

It's clear that none of the so-called job training, community work experience, work supplementation, Job Opportunity and Basic Skills or enterprise zone programs set forth as substantial part of Clintonomics are willing or able to provide higher paying living wage jobs that were promised during Clinton's campaign. The fact that these same programs are supported whole heartedly by open right-wingers makes it equally as clear that these programs are merely a continuation of the fascist and national socialist forced labor approach popularized by the Reagan era.

(***This article will be continued in the next issue, Don't miss it!***) ■

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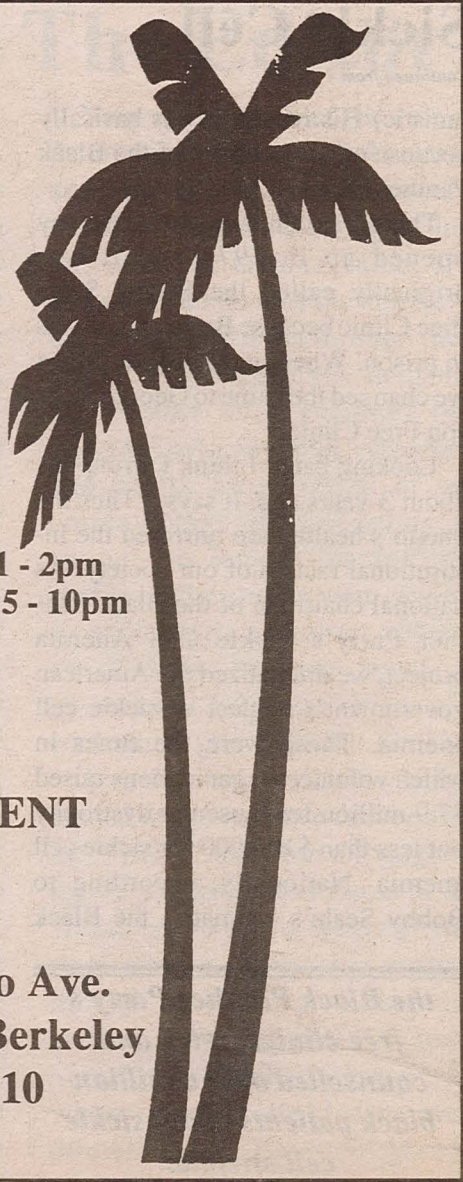

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